

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/FR2003/050035



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B14093-3EE	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR2003/050035	International filing date (day/month/year) 25 août 2003 (25.08.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 août 2002 (26.08.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C09D 5/44, C25D 13/08		
Applicant COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.	
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.	
<input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).	
These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.	
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:	
I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Basis of the report
II <input type="checkbox"/>	Priority
III <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV <input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of unity of invention
V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI <input type="checkbox"/>	Certain documents cited
VII <input type="checkbox"/>	Certain defects in the international application
VIII <input type="checkbox"/>	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 mars 2004 (17.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 22 November 2004 (22.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR2003/050035

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
pages 1-47, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
pages 1-16, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages 1/6-6/6, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: US 5 527 434 A.

Document D1, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, describes (the references between parentheses apply to said document):

a method for preparing a conductive polymer film by electropolymerising one or more precursor monomers in an electrochemical cell containing an anode and a cathode, wherein the difference in potential between the two electrodes varies cyclically between a predetermined value A and a value B, which is progressively increased up to a threshold value at which the electropolymerisation is initiated (column 2, lines 1-13).

It follows that the subject matter of claim 1 differs from this known method in that the maximum potential of each scan is at least equal to a potential beyond which the curves that express the amount of electrografted precursor as a function of the number of scans are all superposed and are separate from said potential.

It follows that the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve can therefore be considered to be that of providing a method for quickly and reproducibly producing organic films of uniform thickness on a substrate, irrespective of the shape and topography thereof.

The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, is considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)), for the following reasons:

In view of D1 and any other prior art document, it would not have been obvious for a person skilled in the art, seeking to solve the above problem, to adapt the method described in D1 in such a way as to arrive at the proposed solution.

Claims 2-11 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also fulfil, as such, the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step.

Claim 12 relates to the product resulting from the method of claim 1 and also fulfils said requirements.

The same is true of independent claims 13-16, which relate to a specific use of this particular method.